

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 976

Introduced by Blood, 3.

Read first time January 05, 2024

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to courts; to provide for an education and
- 2 training program on child abuse and custody determinations; and to
- 3 provide powers and duties for the State Court Administrator.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) The State Court Administrator may develop and
2 implement an ongoing education and training program regarding child abuse
3 for judges and relevant court personnel. The education and training
4 program shall include all aspects of the maltreatment of children,
5 including all of the following:

6 (a) Sexual abuse;

7 (b) Physical abuse;

8 (c) Psychological and emotional abuse;

9 (d) Implicit and explicit bias;

10 (e) Trauma and neglect; and

11 (f) The impact of child abuse and domestic violence on children.

12 (2) The education and training program shall include the latest best
13 practices from evidence-based, peer-reviewed research by recognized
14 experts, including family violence experts, in the types of maltreatment
15 listed in subsection (1) of this section. The State Court Administrator
16 shall design the program to educate and train relevant court personnel on
17 all relevant factors relating to custody determinations and improve the
18 ability of courts to make appropriate custody decisions that are in the
19 best interest of the child, including education and training regarding
20 the impact of child abuse, domestic abuse, and trauma on a victim,
21 specifically a child, and situations when one party attempts to turn a
22 child against another party.

23 (3) The State Court Administrator shall design the education and
24 training program to conform with the requirements for increased federal
25 grant funding under 34 U.S.C. 10446(k).